**2017 BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA SPEAKERS**

**PAMELA KOIDE HYATT**  
**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
World-Renowned Tillandsia Expert  
Encinitas, California

**Presentation: Oaxaca and Chiapas Eco Tour**

Pamela Koide Hyatt, has been exploring and growing Bromeliads with an emphasis on Tillandsias for more than half her life. Since starting Bird Rock Tropicals in 1981, Pamela has traveled extensively throughout Mexico and Central and South America in search of tillandsias. During these travels she has discovered more than a dozen species new to science as well as many more natural hybrids. Experiencing plants in habitat and growing for more than 36 years gives her a unique insight into this amazing genus.

Pamela soon began growing from seed and hybridizing tillandsias. It can take up to two years for the seed to be ready to harvest, and growing the plants to maturity can take anywhere from three to twenty years. Of the more than 3000 hybrids that were made, many have bloomed for the first time over the past few years.

One of these hybrids, Tillandsia Samantha, was nominated for 'Plant of the Year' at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2012, and in 2013, Tillandsia Samantha won the 'Glass Tulip Award' in the category of houseplants. The Glass Tulip Award is one of the most prestigious awards in Horticulture awarded by FloraHolland.

Additionally, Pamela is an International Accredited Bromeliad Master Judge and has served as President and newsletter editors of both the San Diego Bromeliad Society and the North County Bromeliad Society. She has served as a Director of the Bromeliad Society International (BSI) and Publications Chairman for the BSI and is currently on the Editorial Advisory Board for *The Journal of the Bromeliad Society* (BSI). She recently completed nine years as a Trustee at the San Diego Botanic Garden.

In 1992 she contributed to the revision of the *BSI Cultural Manual* and in 1998, Pamela revised and compiled *A Bromeliad Glossary*, published by the Bromeliad Society International. Pamela has been a keynote speaker at the Australasian Biennial Conference in 1998 (Cairns), 2003 (Auckland), 2007 (Port Macquarie) and 2015 (Sydney). In 2001, Pamela presented programs to the Japanese Bromeliad Society (Tokyo), in 2015 to the Singapore Tillandsia Enthusiasts (HortPark) and the WBC 2014 (Hawaii) and 2016 (Houston). She has presented numerous programs for local societies and plant clubs in the United States.

Pamela has consulted on a several different botanical projects. These include consulting not only at private gardens, but Botanical Gardens in Thailand, Singapore, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and San Diego, as well as hotel installations at the Mirage, Bellagio and MGM in Las Vegas.
In 2014 Pamela published *Tilli-Cards™*, a set of 100 reference cards for species and hybrid tillandsias. In 2015, Pamela created and developed the first Application for IOS smart phones related to Tillandsias. The app, *Air Plant Tilli-Cards* is a reference guide to the identification and cultivation of Tillandsia air plants. The app can be easily updated to include most species and many common hybrids.

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**Dr. Lawrence Giroux**

*Editor of The Cryptanthus Society Journal*

*Editor of The Meristem*

*North Fort Myers, Florida*

**Presentation: Cryptanthus…Why That Name?**

Dr. Lawrence Giroux is retired from a 25-year-long Family Medicine Practice in Southwest Florida.

Although he has been growing and studying bromeliads for 25 years, it was in 1991 when he acquired his first Cryptanthus and developed a special passion for these plants.

Dr. Larry, as he is often referred to, has acquired one of the most diverse collections of Cryptanthus in the world. Besides growing Cryptanthus and many other bromeliads, he is an experienced exhibitor and hybridizer.

He is a long-time member of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, the Bromeliad Society International, and the Cryptanthus Society. He has held positions with all of these organizations and is currently the Editor of the *Meristem*, the newsletter of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, the Editor of the *Cryptanthus Society Journal* and a past Regional Director of the Bromeliad Society International’s Board of Directors.

Currently he is the Nominations Committee Chair for the BSI. He has held Chairs at several BSI WBCs and of International Cryptanthus Shows and was the Show Chairman of the BSI 18th WBC in Cairns, Australia.

He is an avid traveler, having explored Central America, South America, the Caribbean, Africa and the western regions of the Pacific, including Australia and New Zealand and Southeast Asia. Larry is an active Master BSI accredited Judge and instructor.

His program: Cryptanthus…Why That Name? will look at the labels given to Cryptanthus hybrids, cultivars and species by their describers and creators. If you are new to this Genus or would like to get started growing these unique smaller foliage plants, Dr. Larry has some helpful tips on how to raise your own champion crypts!
Bruce K. Holst  
Taxonomist/Scientist and Director of Botany  
Marie Selby Botanical Gardens  
Sarasota, Florida  

Presentation: Three Years of Bromeliad Hunting in Belize

Bruce Holst has enjoyed studying plants for over 40 years and has participated on more than 25 international plant research and collecting expeditions.

His main area of interest is the study of plant diversity and distribution in the American Tropics. He participated in Conservation International's Rapid Assessment Program, served in the Peace Corps in Honduras, and helped to edit the 9-volume series *The Flora of the Venezuelan Guayana*, Selby Gardens' research Journal, *Selbyana*, and *The Journal of the Bromeliad Society International*. He is currently working on projects related to the floras of Belize, Ecuador, Venezuela, and Florida.

Bruce Holst will share stories and images of his work during the past three years to inventory epiphytic plants of Belize, particularly bromeliads. The work has added many new records to the log of species known in Belize, including some species previously unknown to science.

Kenneth Stokes  
Bromeliad Expert  
Tampa, Florida  

Presentation: Bi and Multi-generic Bromeliads

Kenneth Stokes is a life-long Floridian and has been involved in plant growing and collecting his whole life. He has made collecting trips to both Ecuador and Malaysian Borneo.

In his business life, he is a master fine furniture maker and a restorer of fine art and antiques. He is also the author of four literary novels.

As a hobby, he grows tropical plants on the grounds of his south Tampa home, including Bromeliads, incorporating examples from most of the cultivated genera. Kenneth joined the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay (BGTB) in 1994 and has participated in many BSI Shows, including three world conferences. He has held positions in both the Sarasota Bromeliad Society (SBS) and BGTB and has presented horticultural programs for both societies.

Kenneth has a book on Bromeliads in the works. His research and work in preparation for the book has also become material for programs. He likes his presentations to contain both informative and useful material for the Bromeliad enthusiast. He has been a public speaker for all
of his adult life, in religious, social, civic and educational circles. He utilizes actual plants he has
grown as visual illustrations and teaching aids. His goal is to present information where every
listener will take home something new with them learned in the presentation.

His presentation will be on Bi and Multi-generic Bromeliads. Of all the bromeliad hybrids that
have been made, those with genetics of more that one genus have more unique forms. Plants
within one genus have similar forms, so when Neoregelias are crossed with plants within the
Cryptanthus or Orthophytum genera, more than a slight variation occurs. Some can be
spectacular; others are just duds. The special ones are continually propagated, while many less
interesting hybrids fade into obscurity.

Kenneth will begin with the basics of hybridizing, then focus on Bromeliads that have parents
with genetics from more than one genus by showing plants that are good examples.